M. J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR. GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

OFFICE OF STATE UNIFORM PAYROLL

MARK C. DRENNEN COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

December 19, 2003

OFFICE OF STATE UNIFORM PAYROLL MEMORANDUM #2004-30

TO: All ISIS HR Paid Agencies

FROM: Jena W. Cary

Director

SUBJECT: Federal Tax Rates for Calendar Year 2004

The revised Federal Tax Tables for income tax withholding that were updated in ISIS HR on June 20, 2003 will continue to be used for wages paid through December 2004. Refer to OSUP Memorandum #2003-69. The advance earned income credit tables are changed effective January 1, 2004.

The withholding allowance amount for a biweekly payroll period will be \$119.23 for 2004. The Social Security wage base for 2004 has increased to \$87,900. The maximum Social Security Tax withheld from each employee and matched by the employer has increased to \$5,449.80. As usual, there is no wage base limit for Medicare tax. The tax rate remains at 6.2% for Social Security and 1.45% for Medicare tax for 2004.

IRS Publication 15, Circular E, Employer's Tax Guide, revised for 2004 has been released electronically. Agencies may not receive a hard copy in the mail due to all state agencies being under one tax ID. The entire publication is available on the IRS website, http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p15.pdf.

Direct all questions to a member of the OSUP Wage and Tax Administration Unit at (225):

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JWC:THA:kmb